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NIAGARA FALLS NO 4623	

Turkey

Diseases/Water Supply

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Aug-Oct 52

16574

19 May 1953

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1. Throughout most of Turkey, malaria, typhoid fever, and tuberculosis are very common. While in Istanbul, a survey had been taken of butter for sale in the city, and it was found that 40% of the samples tested contained brucellosis cultures.

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2. [redacted] not drink the regular city water in Ankara or Istanbul, so [redacted] bought bottled drinking water during my entire stay in Turkey. Evidently the city water supplies contain germs or bacteria to which the natives have built up immunities, but which would affect outsiders. Most of the better restaurants in the cities serve bottled water. Nearly every "Westerner" who visits Ankara acquires a severe case of diarrhea which lasts about three days. [redacted] do not know what causes it, and it seems to develop in spite of drinking-water precautions. Some of the natives advised me to try yoghurt as a remedy, and [redacted] was both surprised and pleased to find it very effective.

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